

# MMAS TER + CEO

{ People tell me they love the sea. Well, I say to them, "The sea doesn't love you back". }

DANIEL MORELAND  
CAPTAIN OF THE PICTON CASTLE

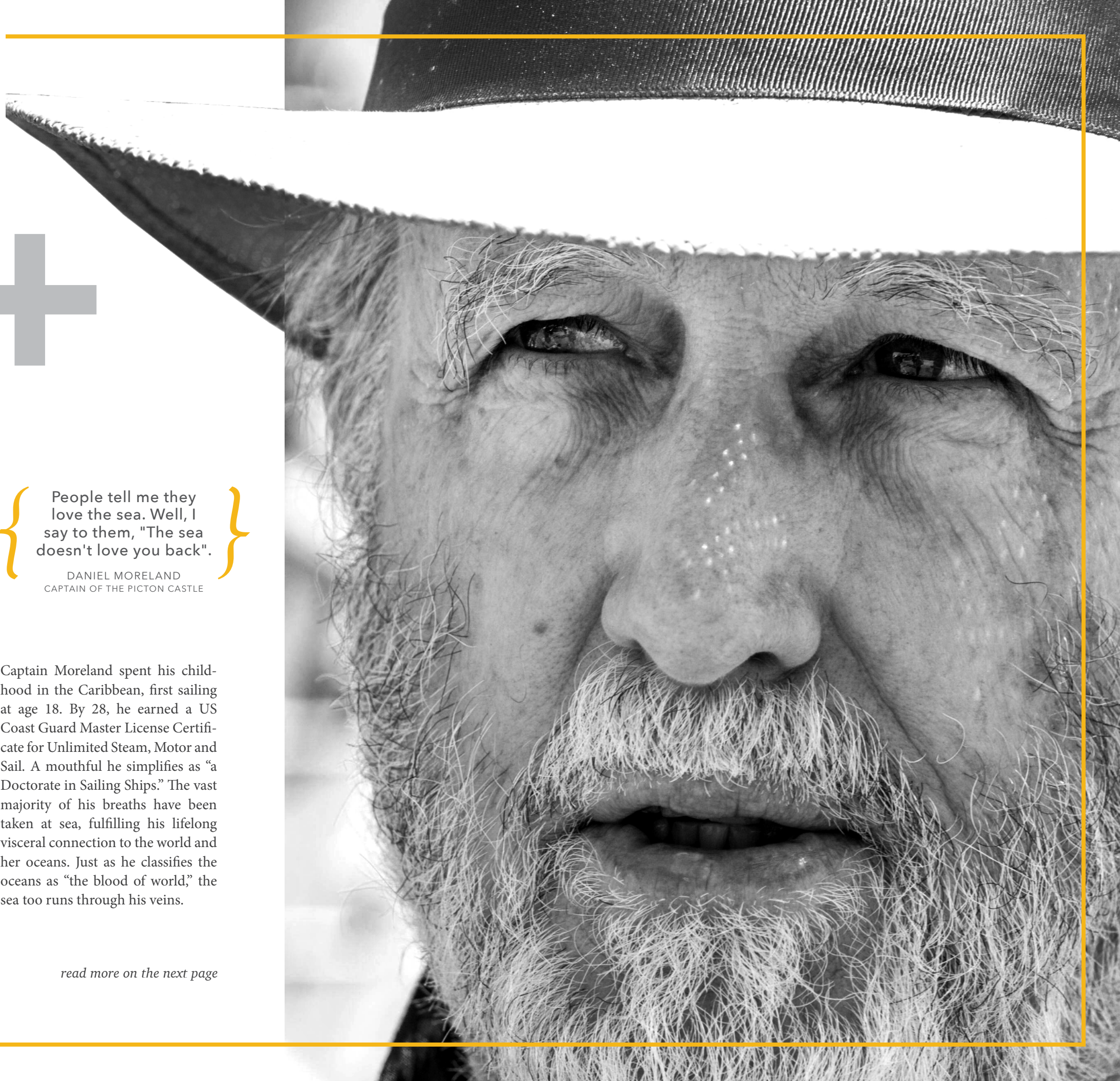
BY ALEX DRAINVILLE

Captain Daniel Moreland hasn't spent his life sailing for love of the seas themselves. In fact, it wasn't the waters at all that compelled Captain Moreland to convert an early 20<sup>th</sup> century fishing trawler (and once wartime minesweeper) into a barque, a historically crafted tall ship capable of ocean travel. Nor are the seas the reason Moreland and the *Picton Castle* have sailed over 30,000 nautical miles and completed seven full circumnavigations around the globe since the 1990s. At 65 years old, it won't be the smell of salt and wisp of ocean air that Moreland will cherish most from his career in sail.

To Captain Moreland, the truest rewards and most cherished memories of a life at sea come, ironically, when the *Picton Castle* is docked at port. It's in these breaks from sail that Moreland strolls down the beaches with his wife, watching their six-year-old son play in the sand and waves. It's in these moments when sail trainees disembark with a fearless gait, head held high, with a confidence that can only be found at the culmination of a journey of self-discovery. And it's through these opportunities that Captain Moreland greets the citizens of the world with open arms as an ambassador of his travels, eager to immerse himself in a new culture.

Captain Moreland spent his childhood in the Caribbean, first sailing at age 18. By 28, he earned a US Coast Guard Master License Certificate for Unlimited Steam, Motor and Sail. A mouthful he simplifies as "a Doctorate in Sailing Ships." The vast majority of his breaths have been taken at sea, fulfilling his lifelong visceral connection to the world and her oceans. Just as he classifies the oceans as "the blood of world," the sea too runs through his veins.

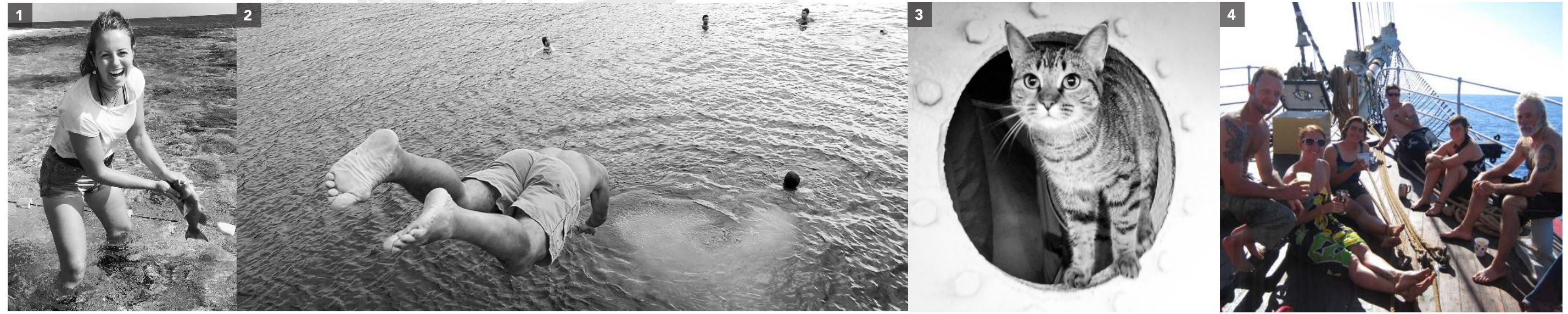
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# "OUR CREW ARE **Living Life** IN 3D, IN FULL-COLOR."

Each voyage the *Picton Castle* takes is carefully planned and prudently scheduled, making stops at remote sun-drenched islands and exotic ports of historic lore. A full circumnavigation may take upwards of fourteen months (the *Picton Castle* is built for comfort, not speed) and is divided into four legs. Between each leg, the Captain and his crew bid farewell to those whose journey has drawn to an end, and welcome new trainees aboard.

when she does, it's a special time for the crew – especially Moreland – as well as for the islanders themselves. Working with a Lions Club in New Orleans, the *Picton Castle* brings a bounty of school supplies to donate to a number of local schools in Rarotonga, the nation's largest island, with whom the *Picton Castle* has had a lasting relationship.



Photos: 1. Trainee, Annie, fishing for parrotfish in Palmerston Atoll on World Voyage 7 | 2. Mid-Ocean swim call | 3. Dawson's cat Tigress peeking through a porthole on World Voyage 7 | 4. Trainees & crew take a break on World Voyage 5

At any given time, roughly 40 trainees live on the ship, hand selected on neither skill nor experience, but in the pursuit of good shipmates for the long voyage. Captain Moreland likens himself to a symphonic conductor, able to connect with musicians of any skill level and transform them into a robust ensemble.

Returning to Avatiu, the *Picton Castle's* home port, the captain and crew are greeted by friends old and new. Crew members reunite with islanders met years ago – in many cases, children they've watched grow up through their visits. The entirety of the *Picton Castle's* crew is ushered to a school assembly filled with refreshments, celebration and Polynesian dancing. Later, the crew will attend feasts around the island, rent bikes, snorkel and swim in pristine lagoons and drink fresh coconuts on the beach.

Although the *Picton Castle* operates out of Nova Scotia, she is registered in the Cook Islands, a remote South Pacific country loosely associated with New Zealand. She doesn't visit often, but



Photos: 1. Trainee & First Mate Gabe showing off the day's catch on Transatlantic Voyage | 2. Trainees demonstrating traditional dance learned at Palmerston Atoll on World Voyage 5 | 3. *Picton Castle* on World Voyage 7 | 4. Trainee, Carlos, re-painting the ship's name in Panama on World Voyage 7 | 5. Ship's cat Fiji on Rendezvous 2017 | 6. Captain Daniel Moreland with wife Tammy and son Dawson on World Voyage 7

During their time ashore – whether in the Cook Islands or the Caribbean, off the Cape of Good Hope or Scandinavia, Northern Europe or the Galapagos, the Great Lakes or the Mediterranean, or any other corner of the world – the crew soak in countless unique cultures. Each question the crew asks local inhabitants is met by three in return. Questions so astoundingly informed of world events and connected with foreign cultures that Captain Moreland often jokes a taxi driver in South Africa could rival any small-town mayor in their understanding of the global political landscape.

“The ocean is commonly seen as a barrier – but in the Age of Sail, the sea was the highway.”

It's through sailing the world's seas that our planet feels a little bit smaller. It's through open waters that sail trainees learn to discover a new potential. It's through these lasting personal connections and relationships made all over the globe that Captain Moreland cultivates a fuller life experience. And it's through the *Picton Castle* that he's able to share it all.

Without these things, Captain Moreland would never sail again. He wouldn't have it any other way.

